districts in Uttar Pradesh have been under the jaws of small-pox apidemia recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent and eradicate the epidemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). India was declared small pox free by an International Commission for Assessment of Small Pox Eradication in April, 1977. The Position continues to be the same.

Ban on Private Practice

1385. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some states have banned the private practice by Government doctors;

(b) if so, the name of such States;

(c) whether the doctors are provided with some other facilities in lieu of their banning private practice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). The State Government were requested to take steps to phase out the system of private practice by medical personnel in Government service. State-wise data on ban on private practice by Government doctors is not available. However, Central Government doctors are not allowed to do private practice. As a measure of compensation, Non-Practice Allowence is being given to such doctors.

Pass percentage of Results Declared by CBSE

1386. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any decline in pass percentage of Class X and Class XII results declared by the CBSE in Delhi in June, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present pass percentage as compared to the pass percentage of the last three years;

(d) whether the CBSE has made it mandatory to clear all the five subjects in class X;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government have received any representations against the CBSE decision; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). The information furnished by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) regarding Pass percentage of Class X and Class XII results declared by the Board in the Delhji Region is given below :

Year	Class X	Class XII
1993	50.5	64.9
1994	55.9	68.0
1995	49.6	65.6
1996	48.3	68.9

(d) to (g). In order to bring about uniformity with other Boards in the country, the CBSE have adopted a revised pass criteria requiring the class X candidates to pass in all the five subjects of external examination conducted by the Board with effect from March, 1995 onwards. Opinions were expressed in some quarters against the above mentioned decision by the Board decided not to make any change in the revised pass criteria.

[Translation]

Facilities to Sainiks/Ex-Servicemen

1387 SHRI KACHARUBHAU RAUT :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide more facilities-concessions to the sainiks/ex-servicemen and their widows; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Improving the facilities/concessions admissible to ex-Servicemen and their families is an ongoing process. Government have set up Fifth Central Pay Commission. The terms of reference of the Pay Commission inter-alia include examination of present structure of emoluments, pension, conditions of service and also the variety of allowances and benefits in kind that are presently available to Central Government employees including Armed Forces Personnel and to make recommendations relating thereto which may be desirable and feasible.

Diseases in Rainy Season

1388. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether every year hundreds of persons die of Cholera, blood dysentry, diarrhoea and brain fever in Vananchal region of Bihar during rainy season;